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Inspection Report

Permit Number:	C0070041
Inspection Type:	TECHNICAL
Inspection Date:	Wednesday, April 15, 2009
Start Date/Time:	4/15/2009 9:00:00 AM
End Date/Time:	4/15/2009 3:00:00 PM
Last Inspection:	

Inspector: Steve Christensen, Environmental Scientist II

Weather:

InspectionID Report Number: 1974

Accepted by:

State of Utah

Department of Natural Resources

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.
Governor

GARY R. HERBERT
Lieutenant Governor

Representatives Present During the Inspection:	
	Daron R. Haddock Environmental Manager
OGM	Priscilla Burton Environmental Scientist III
OGM	Ingrid Wieser Environmental Scientist II
OGM	Joe Helfrich Environmental Scientist III
OGM	Steve Demczak Environmental Scientist III
OGM	Steve Christensen Environmental Scientist II
Company	David Shaver Manager

Permitee: **WEST RIDGE RESOURCES**
Operator: **WEST RIDGE RESOURCES**
Site: **WEST RIDGE MINE**
Address: **PO BOX 1077, PRICE UT 84501**
County: **CARBON**
Permit Type: **PERMANENT COAL PROGRAM**
Permit Status: **ACTIVE**

Current Acreages

6,114.89	**Total Permitted**
29.40	**Total Disturbed**
	Phase I
	Phase II
	Phase III

Mineral Ownership

- [x] Federal
- [x] State
- [ ] County
- [ ] Fee
- [ ] Other

Types of Operations

- [x] Underground
- [ ] Surface
- [ ] Loadout
- [ ] Processing
- [ ] Reprocessing

Report summary and status for pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments:

The purpose of the field visit was to inspect the on-going containment/clean-up efforts being conducted by the West Ridge Mine (the Permittee). The Permittee is in the process of installing 4 sediment basins (A,C,E and F) in response to a Notice of Violation (NOV #10033) issued by the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (the Division) on January 29th, 2009. The violation was issued because of additional contributions of sediment to stream flow outside the permit area. Fine coal material was released and deposited in the C Canyon drainage from in-mine water discharge at UPDES Outfall #2. On March 27th, 2009 the Permittee submitted a proposed mitigation and abatement plan as required by NOV #10033.

In addition to inspecting the sediment basins, the gob vent hole site (GVH site) was visited as well. The GVH site was approved by the Division in November of 2008 and is located in Bear Canyon. Upon inspection of the site, it was evident that several components of the approved sediment/runoff control plan had not been installed. Company representative, Mr. Dave Shaver, indicated that the approved sediment control measures would be installed by April 30th, 2009.

Inspector's Signature: Steve Christensen, Environmental Scientist II

Date Thursday, April 16, 2009

Inspector ID Number: 54

Note: This inspection report does not constitute an affidavit of compliance with the regulatory program of the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining.

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REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

1. *Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.*
   a. *For COMPLETE inspections provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check Not Applicable.*
   b. *For PARTIAL inspections check only the elements evaluated.*
2. *Document any noncompliance situation by reference the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.*
3. *Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performace standard listed below.*
4. *Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Divison Orders, and amendments.*

	Evaluated	Not Applicable	Comment	Enforcement
1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale	☐	☑	☐	☐
2. Signs and Markers	☑	☐	☑	☐
3. Topsoil	☑	☐	☑	☐
4.a Hydrologic Balance: Diversions	☐	☐	☐	☐
4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments	☑	☐	☑	☐
4.c Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures	☑	☐	☑	☐
4.d Hydrologic Balance: Water Monitoring	☐	☐	☑	☐
4.e Hydrologic Balance: Effluent Limitations	☐	☐	☑	☐
5. Explosives	☐	☐	☐	☐
6. Disposal of Excess Spoil, Fills, Benches	☐	☐	☐	☐
7. Coal Mine Waste, Refuse Piles, Impoundments	☐	☐	☐	☐
8. Noncoal Waste	☐	☐	☐	☐
9. Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Issues	☐	☐	☐	☐
10. Slides and Other Damage	☐	☐	☐	☐
11. Contemporaneous Reclamation	☐	☐	☐	☐
12. Backfilling And Grading	☐	☐	☐	☐
13. Revegetation	☐	☐	☐	☐
14. Subsidence Control	☐	☐	☐	☐
15. Cessation of Operations	☐	☐	☐	☐
16.a Roads: Construction, Maintenance, Surfacing	☐	☐	☐	☐
16.b Roads: Drainage Controls	☐	☐	☐	☐
17. Other Transportation Facilities	☐	☐	☐	☐
18. Support Facilities, Utility Installations	☐	☐	☐	☐
19. AVS Check	☐	☐	☐	☐
20. Air Quality Permit	☐	☐	☐	☐
21. Bonding and Insurance	☐	☐	☐	☐
22. Other	☐	☐	☐	☐

2. Signs and Markers

The topsoil pile associated with the GVH site was observed with a sign identifying it as such.

3. Topsoil

The topsoil pile associated with the GVH site was observed during the site visit. Excelsior logs have been installed at the toe of the topsoil pile for erosion control. It appeared that the Excelsior logs were functioning as no signs of blow outs or loss of topsoil were observed at the time of the inspection.

4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments

Sediment basins A, C, E and F were observed during the field inspection. Basins E and F have been completed and appeared to be functioning. Sediment basin C was being installed at the time of the inspection. Sediment basin A (the first basin installed) was functioning and appeared to be collecting coal fine material. Mr. Shaver indicated that upon the completion of sediment basin C, sediment basin A would be "retro-fitted" to the same specifications as the other three. The Permittee fabricated a weir-type sediment collection structure (to facilitate the removal of the deposited coal material) after sediment basin A had already been constructed. The collection structures essentially allow for firmly securing a series of Excelsior logs. In addition, the structures will allow the Permittee to quickly remove the Excelsior logs once they have become saturated with material and are no longer functioning.

Plate #1 'Typical Section View' accurately depicts the constructed sediment basins. The approaches of the collection structures have been armored with riprap on either side. Upon inspection of the completed structures at sites E and F, it appeared that the structures were successfully routing the entire flow of the drainage through the series of Excelsior logs. Mr. Shaver indicated that the sediment catchment basins were approximately 4-6' deep.

Construction of the access pads and wier structures took place within the stream channel, consequently, no topsoil was salvaged. At site F, road fill was brought in to build the pad for equipment access. Site F is located at a bend in the stream. Site F was at near capacity, with 6 inch freeboard before overtopping and circumventing the installed wier structure. The stream source is constant mine water discharge (approximately 800 gpm) and would only increase in volume during a precipitation event. The catch basin had a layer of gray silt on the bottom and the excelsier logs were gray with sediment. Large shrubs (7 ft high) surrounded the channel at site C (which we observed under construction). Undisturbed stream channel soils were gravelly sand. The stream banks were vegetated with grasses and forbs. The constractor (SCAMP Excavation) indicated that many large boulders had been removed from the stream channel in order to make the holding basin at site C. These boulders were taken to the Nielson gravel pit site. Site A holding basin was also full. The bottom of this basin was black with sediment. The water was black. There were greater than two inch thick accumulations of black sediment on the channel sides upstream of the catch basin.

4.c Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures

The gob vent hole (GVH) site was inspected during the field visit. Several sediment control measures approved by the Division during the permitting of the GVH site (incorporated November 12th, 2008) were not installed/utilized at the site during the inspection. The approved GVH plan called for the entire road and pad area above the channel crossing to be covered with gravel in order to provide a quick and reliable sediment control for the site during the operation of the GVH's. The site had not been covered with gravel. The energy dissipater's that were to be installed in the south drainage ditch were absent. The series of excelsior logs that were to be installed every 50 feet in the south drainage ditch above the confluence with the Bear Canyon Channel were not installed either. Mr. Shaver indicated that these sediment control measures couldn't be installed during the 2008 construction season due to weather conditions. However, Mr. Shaver indicated that the site would be brought into compliance with their approved plan by April 30th, at which time the site will be inspected again.

4.d Hydrologic Balance: Water Monitoring

The Mine is currently monitoring the water discharging from Outfall # 2 twice monthly.

4.e Hydrologic Balance: Effluent Limitations

The Mine water discharge from Outfall #2 was in compliance for the months of February and March but may be out of compliance for Iron levels and possibly Total Suspended Solids for the month of April. West Ridge Resources plans to reroute the underground workings in order to establish a longer settling period for the water before it is discharged. This plan will not be in effect for several months.